

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 GENEVA 06493 281914Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00  
INRE-00 ACDE-00 /026 W  
-----095996 281922Z /72  
P 281851Z APR 78  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9019  
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USMISSION USNATO

S E C R E T GENEVA 06493

EXDIS

USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PARM  
SUBJECT: ADVANCE NOTIFICATION (SALT TWO-1713)

REFS: A. SALT TWO-1693; B. SALT TWO-1706

1. ON APRIL 12 SOVIETS REVISED THEIR PROPOSAL FOR ARTICLE XVI, DROPPING CONCEPT OF SUBJECTIVE NOTIFICATION STANDARD AND AGREEING TO MAKE NOTIFICATION BEFORE EACH PLANNED LAUNCH ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. ADDITIONALLY, SOVIETS TABLED COMMON UNDERSTANDING DEFINING A "MULTIPLE LAUNCH" AS A LAUNCH OF TWO OR MORE ICBMS FROM ONE TEST RANGE OR FROM ONE DEPLOYMENT AREA WITHIN TEN MINUTES.

2. DELEGATION RECOMMENDS THAT THERE BE A COMMON UNDERSTANDING, MAKING CLEAR THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A "SINGLE LAUNCH" AND A "MULTIPLE LAUNCH," WHILE MAINTAINING OUR PRESENT POSITION OF NOT EXEMPTING SINGLE LAUNCHES FROM ICBM LAUNCHER DEPLOYMENT AREAS.

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3. DELEGATION BELIEVES "MULTIPLE LAUNCHES" SHOULD NOT BE LIMITED TO A SINGLE SITE BUT SHOULD INCLUDE ALL LAUNCH SITES OF EACH SIDE. (FYI: SOVIETS HAVE CONDITIONALLY HINTED WILLINGNESS TO EXTEND DEFINITION PER REF B.) DELEGATION BELIEVES WE SHOULD INITIALLY PROPOSE A SIXTY MINUTE PERIOD THE SUPPORTING RATIONALE FOR WHICH IS THAT ONLY ONE MISSILE FLIGHT COULD BE IN PROGRESS AT ANY ONE

TIME WITHOUT ADVANCE NOTIFICATION. (SIXTY MINUTES IS AN ARBITRARY PERIOD SELECTED BECAUSE IT EXCEEDS MAXIMUM THEORETICAL FLIGHT DURATION OF ANY SOVIET ICBM FROM LAUNCH TO REENTRY VEHICLE IMPACT WITHIN NATIONAL TERRITORY; I.E., 48 MINUTES FOR SS-18.)

4. DESPITE RATIONALE CITED ABOVE DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT SHORTER PERIOD, EVEN TEN MINUTES USED IN SOVIET PROPOSAL, WOULD BE SATISFACTORY AS FINAL SOLUTION SINCE TEN MINUTES IS MORE THAN SUFFICIENT FOR THREAT ASSESSMENT PURPOSES. HOWEVER, BY FIRST PROPOSING SIXTY MINUTES U.S. MAY OBTAIN LEVERAGE TO GET SOVIET AGREEMENT TO U.S. POSITION NOT TO EXEMPT SINGLE LAUNCHES FROM ICBM LAUNCHER DEPLOYMENT AREAS.

5. REQUEST GUIDANCE REGARDING ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDING AUTHORITY TO REDUCE, AS APPROPRIATE, TIME PERIOD TO NO LESS THAN TEN MINUTES. EARLE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, SALT (ARMS CONTROL), DIPLOMATIC PROTOCOL, MISSILES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 SALT TALKS 1693, 78 SALT TALKS 1706  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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